



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/617,975
Sheet	1	of	1	Filing Date	July 12, 2003
				First Named Inventor	David R. Payne
				Art Unit	3671
				Examiner Name	Raymond W. Addie
				Attorney Docket Number	082380-00561

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Classification
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
<i>AA</i>	AA	US-5,833,015	11/10/1998	Hesse et al.	175/40
<i>AB</i>	AB	US-5,746,278	05/05/1998	Bischel et al.	175/24
<i>AC</i>	AC	US-6,289,997	09/18/2001	Bischel et al.	175/24
<i>AD</i>	AD	US-6,308,787	10/30/2001	Alft	175/48

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Classification	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				T ⁴
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ⁷	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published		
<i>AE</i>	AE	FLOYD RAY GUNSAULIS, P.E., "A System for Comparison of Boring Parameters of Mini-HDD Machines", Presented at the International and North American Societies for Trenchless Technology's, International No-Dig '96 Conference. New Orleans, Louisiana, March 31- April 3, 1996		

Examiner Signature	<i>Raymond W. Addie</i>	Date Considered	4/6/06
-----------------------	-------------------------	--------------------	--------

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

SVO/hr/82380-561/544913_1.DOC

- 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).
- 2 See Kinds of Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.
- 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).
- 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.
- 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.
- 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.
- 7 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).
- 8 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.